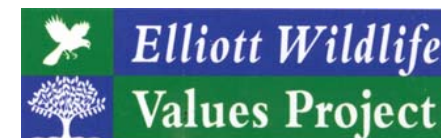




Linking Girls to the Land

2006 Council Grant Summaries



From 2006-2007 fourteen Girl Scout councils will work with federal and state natural resource agencies to complete projects focused on environmental education, outdoor skills development or volunteer conservation service that promotes career development and the preservation of wildlife and natural resources.

	State	Council Name	Project Summary	Number of Girl Scouts to be Served
1.	SD	Girl Scouts of the Black Hills Council	<p>Ecotones in U-Pods Girls will participate in ecosystem restoration by planting native trees at a local watershed, collecting samples, studying, and analyzing land and water habitat, and erosion. Girls will learn the critical importance of ecotones, the precarious transition areas between two ecosystems. They will become knowledgeable in the techniques of protecting surface vegetation, communities of organisms, water bodies (lakes/streams), and aqua-environmental systems. The watershed and erosion at Sheridan Lake will benefit through the work of the girls' community service project.</p> <p>Federal or State Collaborating Agency: USDA Forest Service-Black Hills National Forest</p>	200
2.	FL	Girl Scouts of Broward County, Inc.	<p>Help our Waterways the Artificial Reef Way! Rebecca, a 16 year-old Girl Scout, is spearheading a program to construct and install artificial reefs to provide a thriving habitat for fish, coral, and sea plants. South Florida Girl Scouts will deploy artificial reefs. Girl Scouts who are scuba-certified will maintain and monitor the status of the artificial reef site. Girls will learn about artificial reefs, why they are important, and how they are designed. They will also explore various environment-related career opportunities.</p> <p>Federal or State Collaborating Agency: Florida State Parks-Oleta River State Recreation Area, Department of Environmental Resources Management (DERM), Department of the Army-Army Corps of Engineers In process: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration: National Ocean Services</p>	1150

3.	NC	Girl Scout Council of the Catawba Valley Area	<p>Connecting Girls to the Land Through hands-on environmental education workshops and stewardship projects, Girl Scouts will learn about invasive species in North Carolina. Girls will also learn about careers, forest exploration and management issues conducted at the Cradle of Forest in America Historic Site. The girls will enhance the Cradle of Forestry site and the visitor experience by pulling invasive plants along two historic trails, weeding a wildlife and native garden, and tending to a tree seedling nursery exhibit.</p> <p>Federal or State Collaborating Agency: USDA Forest Service-Pisgah Ranger District</p>	1500
4.	CT	Girl Scouts, Connecticut Trails Council, Inc.	<p>Parks Matter: Studio 2B Older girls will attend a two-week summer program at Camp Murray to become Youth Park Guides. The girls will visit state parks and participate in environmental science-related activities, culminating in the production of a Field Guide (developed by the girls themselves) to benefit younger Brownie and Junior Girl Scouts. The girls will evaluate the landscape, read the history of a geographical region, understand the impact human beings have on their environment, and respect the natural environment while aiding in its preservation.</p> <p>Federal or State Collaborating Agency: State of Connecticut: Department of Environmental Protection, Kellogg Environmental Center, USDI Fish & Wildlife Service-Stewart B. McKinney National Wildlife Refuge</p>	140
5.	IL	Girl Scouts of the Mississippi Valley, Inc.	<p>Restoring Iowa Prairies-Phase 2 Because native tallgrass prairie is now less than 0.1% of the original region, a sustainable management plan will be developed to ensure the health and growth of the recently restored two-acre prairie habitat at Camp Conestoga. The endangered Eastern Prairie Fringe Orchid will be introduced to the prairie, pending a positive evaluation from the USDI-FWS. Girls will develop a prairie/environmental education curriculum to be delivered during resident camp and available to troops and groups year round. Through hands-on environmental education activities, girls will become leaders and stewards of conservation and natural resource issues. Through this partnership, girls will network with agency staff to explore careers in science, environmental science, and the outdoors and understand the importance of safeguarding native habitats.</p> <p>Federal or State Collaborating Agency: USDI Fish & Wildlife Service-Rock Island Field Office</p>	1,000
6.	NY	Girl Scouts of the North Country	<p>Discover the Dragonflies Girls and adults will work with wildlife professionals to examine and document the order Odonata (dragonflies and damselflies) within the council's jurisdiction. Findings will be submitted to a statewide database. The girls will learn about careers in wildlife, how to use a dichotomous key, practice field techniques, present their findings to the general public, and gain valuable leadership experience.</p> <p>Federal or State Collaborating Agency: New York State-Adirondack Park Agency, Adirondack All Taxa Biological Inventory (AATBI)</p>	150

7.	SC	Girl Scouts of the Piedmont Area Council	<p>Linking Girls to the Land at Camp Mary Elizabeth Girls will do field studies and water testing to monitor the water quality of the creeks and habitats along the watershed. At Camp Mary Elizabeth, girls will see first-hand the effects of pollution and the benefits of preserving and protecting natural resources. Sharing this project with the community and advocating for the protection of the watershed environment is a critical element. The results of the girls' water-quality tests will be publicly posted to benefit the local community.</p> <p>Federal or State Collaborating Agency: USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service, Spartanburg Soil Water Conservation District</p>	200
8.	ND	Girl Scouts Sakakawea Council	<p>Following in the Footsteps of Lewis and Clark-An Exploration of the Missouri River Tracing the route of Lewis, Clark, and Sakakawea, girls will camp along the banks of the Missouri River, to learn about the life of the river, and expand on their knowledge by "river mucking," to help them understand the interconnectedness of ecosystems. Girls will learn from interpretive experts about the lives of Native Americans and their existence on the Missouri. The project concludes with an outreach program held for two six-week sessions on the Standing Rock Sioux Indian Reservation, where girl members of the tribe will learn how their ancestors were connected to the river, and how they can maintain that connection. At each location, girls will pick-up trash as part of their community service project, which will aid in the beautification of the banks and surrounding areas.</p> <p>Federal or State Collaborating Agency: USDI National Park Service-Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site, State of North Dakota-Cross Ranch State Park</p>	220
9.	CA	Girl Scouts of San Geronio Council	<p>Outdoor Explorer During an intensive weekend program, girls of diverse backgrounds will build outdoor living skills, gain environmental knowledge, demonstrate gains in self-confidence, utilize critical thinking-skills, and work in teams to benefit themselves, their community, and the environment. Girls will complete a series of activities to reach the Intermediate and Advanced levels of the council's Outdoor Living Skills patch program and work toward an outdoor skills/environmental stewardship badge being developed by girls and council staff as an extension of this program.</p> <p>Federal or State Collaborating Agency: USDI Bureau of Land Management-California Desert District, USDA Forest Service</p>	200
10.	AK	Girl Scouts Susitna Council	<p>Linking Girls to the Chugach National Forest Through Recreation, Fisheries, and Ecology Field Projects Girl Scouts will assist Forest Service technicians and scientists in a variety of land stewardship projects. The girls will help restore the ecological balance and protect salmon spawning habitat to areas affected by invasive plants and river erosion as well as improve the recreational use of trails. The girls will clear brush along the Trail of Blue Ice and Byron Glacier Trail, pull invasive plants at the Moose Flats Day Use Area, and plant native trees, shrubs, and grasses at the Granite Creek Recreation Area.</p> <p>Federal or State Collaborating Agency: USDA Forest Service-Chugach National Forest, Glacier Ranger District</p>	120

11.	NY	Girl Scouts Thousand Islands Council	<p>ECO-SQUAD: Plant Patrol Girls will be recruited and trained to play an active stewardship role to identify, map, and help eradicate non-native invasive plants in Jefferson, Lewis and St. Lawrence Counties in New York. Organized into <i>Plant Patrols</i>, girls will identify, photograph, and inventory any invasive plants found, noting their observations, including species' names, geographic locations, settings and abundance in their <i>Plant Patrol Journals</i>. All information will be shared with state, federal, and community partners, as well as local township planning officials that will further assist in their invasive plant control efforts.</p> <p>Federal or State Collaborating Agency: USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Department, New York State-Department of Transportation, New York State-Department of Environmental Conservation, State University of New York-College of Environmental Science and Forestry</p>	150
12.	IL	Girl Scout of Trailways Council, Inc.	<p>Field of Dreams Girls will participate in the restoration of a tallgrass prairie to discover their own natural heritage. The girls will visit the prairie quarterly to partake in hands-on seasonal restoration activities including plant propagation, removal of invasive species, avian ecology, aquatic plant and animal monitoring, and landscape genealogy.</p> <p>Federal or State Collaborating Agency: USDA Forest Service-Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie, Illinois Department of Natural Resources</p>	100
13.	IN	Girl Scouts of Tribal Trails Council	<p>Rock and Wildlife at Wildwood (Phase 2 of Wildbirds at Wildwood) An interpretive nature trail will be expanded, including the clearing and development of three new spurs. Girls will identify and remove invasive plant species and replace them with native plants, identify local woodland wildlife and habitats, and explore geology concepts. Signage will be posted and environmental patch program boxes created for use by troops, schools, state and local parks, and the community who wish to utilize the trail.</p> <p>Federal or State Collaborating Agency: Indiana Department of Natural Resources</p>	150
14.	MA	Girl Scouts of Western Massachusetts	<p>Our Watershed- Our Life! Girls will conduct a border-to-border Connecticut River program, participate in the Source to Sea Cleanup, conduct water monitoring in conjunction with World Water Monitoring Day, meet female naturalists, and learn about the importance of our watershed and how to protect it.</p> <p>Federal or State Collaborating Agency: USDI Fish & Wildlife Service-Great Falls Discovery Center, Children's Museum at Holyoke/Heritage State Park</p>	110
			TOTAL NUMBER OF GIRL SCOUTS TO BE SERVED	5,390